

# Educator's Guide

## GREEN POINT ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

Saginaw, Michigan



The mission of Green Point Environmental Learning Center is to provide environmental education opportunities for the children and adults of the Saginaw Valley. We are dedicated to the protection and management of habitats and committed to extending access to the largest possible audience for educational and recreational purposes.

*Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex or disability. Persons who believe they have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should contact: U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 D. Street NW, Washington D.C. 20240.*

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On March 14, 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt established the first Refuge at Pelican Island, Florida. Today, there are over 540 Refuges across the nation with at least one in every state and U.S. territory. We hope you will help support and enjoy your local Refuge, Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge!

For more Refuge information, visit  
<http://midwest.fws.gov/shiawassee>.



### Green Point Environmental Learning Center

#### What:

- › Displays and Exhibits
- › Large classroom
- › Wildlife Viewing Area
- › 2.5 miles of trails

#### When:

Open from 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Mon – Fri. Closed Federal Holidays

#### Cost:

FREE and open to the public

#### Where:

3010 Maple Street, Saginaw, MI, 48602

#### **Scheduling your group is easy!**

Please contact Green Point at 989/759-1669 to schedule your group. For most programs you will receive a confirmation packet in the mail that includes Pre-Activities for a classroom introduction.

When you call we will need the following:

- › Date and time of visit
- › Name of lead teacher/educator
- › Total number of students
- › School address and phone number
- › Curriculum unit choice(s)
- › Special needs.

**Note:** Teachers are expected to assist our staff in leading groups if there are more than 20 students. Be prepared to divide your class into smaller groups.



## MULTIMEDIA COMPUTER EDUCATION STATION

Try one of our software programs or check out the video microscope during your visit.

## TREKKING PACKS

These binders include an Activity Guide with classroom and on-site activities and reproducible data sheets. You pick it up at Green Point two weeks before your visit.

› **Animals Tracks Trekking Pack**

Grades 4 – 7\*

› **Bird Migration Trekking Pack**

Grades 4 – 7\*

› **Pond Life Trekking Pack**

Grades 4 – 7\*

› **Water Quality Trekking Pack**

Grades 5 – 12\*

\* All programs can be adapted to other grade levels.

## IN-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

We bring our activities to you! These programs are 1 – 2 hours in length.

› **Careers in the Fish and Wildlife Service**

– Through an open discussion with a Refuge staff person, your students will learn what it takes to be a part of the Fish and Wildlife team. Grades 6 – 12.

› **Endangered Species** – Students will see a variety of endangered species and illegal wildlife trade items. Good for all grades.

› **Birds of Prey** – Discover the world of hawks, eagles and owls. “Soar” with a life-size pair of Bald Eagle wings. Good for all grades.

› **Biodiversity** – Learn what biodiversity is and why it is important through hands-on games and activities with the students. Grades 5 – 12.

› **ToxRAP** – Students will learn about environmental health hazards through stories, games and activities. A nine week program or less. Grades K – 6.

› **Let’s Build a Refuge!** – Students will learn what it takes to build a National Wildlife Refuge. Grades 4 – 6.

## ON-SITE PROGRAMS

These units are offered at our facility. Spend a couple of hours discovering nature through hands-on activities and a hike through our local habitats.

(F=Fall, W=Winter, Sp=Spring, Su=Summer)

› **Home is Where the Habitat Is!**

Discover what habitats are and how they differ. A habitat hike will introduce the basic life requirements of local wildlife. Students will make a wildlife friend to take home.

PreK-3 (F, W, Sp, Su)

› **Tracks and Traces** – Learn how to identify animals by the traces they leave behind. Discover animal adaptations that allow for survival. Make your own animal tracks to take home. PreK-3 (F, W, Sp, Su)

› **Sensing the Seasons** – Come see how the plants and animals of Green Point change from season to season in this year long program. PreK-3 (F, W, Sp, Su)

› **Bird Eye-Q** – Ever wonder why birds fly south for the winter? How do biologists identify one bird from the next? Practice your skills at using a bird field guide to identify local species. Gr. 1-6 (F, W, Sp, Su)

› **Forest Apartment** – The forest community can be divided into many layers, much like an apartment building. See what happens at each layer. Gr. 1-3 (F, Sp, Su)

› **Water Wonderland** – Experience the water cycle. Learn the steps of the cycle and properties of water. Gr. 1-3 (F, W, Sp, Su)

› **Micro World** – Learn the parts of a microscope and how to use it. Use the video microscope to study microscopic life in Green Point Pond. Gr. 4-12 (F, Sp, Su)

› **Migration Mapping** – Study bird migration in depth. Using an 18’ x 18’ floor map, students learn about bird ranges, flyways and more! Socks required! Gr. 4-12 (F, W, Sp, Su)

› **Insect Safari** – Collect and study insects to discover the health of a prairie. Use a field guide to identify insects. Gr 4-12 (F, Sp, Su)

› **Web of Life** – Students learn about interrelationships of living organisms by building a food web. Gr. 4-6 (F, W, Sp, Su)

› **What’s a Tree?** – Learn about tree parts and their functions. Identify local trees. Build a human “tree.” Gr. 4-6 (F, W, Sp, Su)

## CLASSROOM TRUNKS

Everything you need to enhance your in-school curriculum. You can borrow the following trunks for two weeks to use in your classroom. Call Green Point to schedule a pick up and drop off date and time. The trunks can be used for any grade level.

› **Shorebirds** – Learn about the natural history of shorebirds. This integrated teaching unit contains an activity guide, posters, maps, puppets, binoculars, and a variety of books.

› **Cargo for Conservation** – Learn about species affected by illegal trade. The trunk includes informational materials for the teacher and advanced students, activity ideas, reproducible coloring pages with student information, lesson plans, pamphlets, posters and wildlife parts and products actually confiscated at and within U.S. borders. A good kick-off for studying endangered species!

› **Michigan Natural Resources** – This trunk is a collection of materials covering forest, soil and wildlife. It includes informational materials, activity ideas, posters, track casting materials, forestry measuring devices and much more.

› **Prairie Discovery** – This trunk was designed with subject-oriented learning materials and educational tools to be used by groups of any age. The Activity Guide contains nine units that concentrate on specific aspects of the prairie ecosystem. A variety of educational videos, books, posters and even a buffalo costume are included!

› **Songbirds** – Learn about the natural history of migratory songbirds, their other life in Latin America and the increasing problems birds face in their homes. This integrated teaching unit contains an activity guide, posters, maps, puppets, and a variety of books.

› **Wetlands Discovery** – This trunk helps your students learn about wetlands. It includes background information, videos, posters, books, curricula, activity guide, artifacts, audio cassettes, puppets, props and more!

› **Wolf Wonders** – Explore the world of one of America’s endangered species, the wolf. The trunk includes activity ideas, books, a video, a wolf skull and a wolf skin.